

RDML Buck, RDML Rainey, Commodore Garvin
CAPT Johnston, CAPT Radka, CAPT Phillips
Former VQ/VPU CO's -
CAPT East, CAPT Quigley, CAPT Leeds, CAPT Vinson
CAPT Wenceslao, CAPT Davis, CAPT Hart, CAPT (S) Lee
CDR Pauley, CDR Giannetti, CDR Durkee,

Fellow CO's, XO, Family, Friends, past Shipmates and most notably the Men and Women of Fleet Air Reconnaissance TWO, Good Morning and welcome to the VQ-2 Disestablishment Ceremony.

I would like to start this ceremony off by giving a few particular thanks to some special folks.

To the Northwest Navy Band; thank you for providing us fantastic music for this special event;

To Boats McSwain and the Sideboys, I think we successfully dodged the bullets, they are all standing. Thanks

Our very own VQ-2 Color guard, I could see your Ranger pride in your step as you proudly presented our national ensign.
Thanks to you

Petty Officer Hill from VP-40, for that splendid rendition of our National Anthem.

The Change of Command Coordinators – LCDR Mittag and LCDR Szypula, as well as, the entire Admin department. Bravo

Zulu to each and every one of you for making this week an event not to forget. Everyone that helped make this disestablishment week one not to forget.

I left out one very important CO from my listing on purpose. He was the 5th Ranger CO serving from 1961-1962 and he is turning 91 today. Please help me giving a special Birthday greeting to CDR Art Elder. Happy Birthday Art!

(Applause)

Now back to the task at hand...

The bittersweet day for all current and past Rangers has finally arrived. These Rangers have given some of their best days to ensure that America has been defended from current and past adversaries, but today we have been asked to hang up our gear for the last time and check in our toolboxes.

During WWII and the beginnings of the Cold War in the mid 50's and for the past 57 years, young patriots have been maintaining, supporting, and flying various aircraft engaged in the cat and mouse game of Electronic Countermeasures or better known today as Electronic Support.

We come here today to remember the ultimate sacrifice of over 100 Sailors and the thousand of others who have served within this diverse command over the years. We cannot adequately cover what this command has achieved over the years without going behind closed doors and being sworn to secrecy. Doing our deeds with little fanfare, we have quietly done our tasking, ensuring that if we as a nation ever went to war, our forces

would have the advantage of controlling the electronic spectrum at the time of our choosing.

The Internet may do a much better job of defining what our community can do, but the age-old disclaimer will come into play...I cannot confirm nor deny any capabilities of the aircraft or personnel.

What I can do is to confirm the leadership abilities of my Boss, Commodore Pete Garvin. I have been honored to know the Commodore from my early days at VP-30 when he was a Pre-DH and I a nugget Instructor Under Training back in 1999. His accolades are well documented in the program and I will not embellish them, except to say that the program is definitely understated. He is a master at getting productivity from us while making us happy in doing the deeds. (Some of them dirty) He is a people person that cares about each and every one of the 2000 sailors under his command. THIS IS a sign of a great leader, and the attribute that I admire very much in him. Ladies and Gentlemen, It is now my great pleasure to introduce Commodore Pete Garvin.
(Applause)